

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 02038 060622Z

51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 SAM-01 SR-02

ORM-03 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAB-01 DRC-01 /165 W  
----- 115633

R 051845Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2092  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2038

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR PFOR, JO, IS

SUBJECT: ISRAELI LAND PURCHASES ON WEST BANK

REF: JERUSALEM 0495, AMMAN 1639

1. IN RESPONSE TO OUR INQUIRY ABOUT REPORTS OF LAND SPECULATION ON WEST BANK BY PRIVATE ISRAELI CITIZENS, MFA TOLD US APRIL 4 THAT REPORTS APPEARING IN PRESS HAD VASTLY EXAGGERATED DEGREE OF SPECULATION CURRENTLY GOING ON. MFA SOURCE ADMITTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME PRIVATE SPECULATION BUT SAID THIS HAD BEEN PATTERN EVEN SINCE 1967. WHEN WE MENTIONED FIGURE OF 3000 DUNAMS (AMMAN REFTTEL), MFA OFFICIAL CONCEDED THAT IT MIGHT BE THIS HIGH BUT TERMED THAT AN INSIGNIFICANT AMOUNT.

2. WE SAID THAT WE HAD HEARD REPORTS THAT PRIVATE ISRAELI INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS WERE PURCHASING LAND IN LARGE AMOUNTS ON BOTH SIDES OF JERICHO-JERUSALEM ROAD AND IN AREA OF BEIT JALA AS WELL AS AROUND KALANDIA AIRPORT. MFA OFFICIAL PROFESSED TO HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF PURCHASES IN THESE AREAS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEL AV 02038 060622Z

3. WHEN WE RAISED RECENT REPORTS APPEARING IN HAARETZ AND

DAVAR THAT KKL AND ISRAEL LANDS AUTHORITY WERE CONTINUING TO BUY LAND ON WEST BANK IN LARGE AMOUNTS AND THAT KKL DIRECTOR HAD BEEN QUOTED TO THIS EFFECT, MFA OFFICIAL SAID THAT HE HAD CHECKED WITH KKL DIRECTOR AND LATTER DENIED THAT HE HAD MADE STATEMENTS REPORTED IN PRESS.

4. COMMENT: : IT IS UNCLEAR TO US WHETHER MFA WOULD BE AWARE OF LARGE-SCALE, PRIVATE PURCHASES OF LAND ON WEST BANK. AS HAS BEEN REPORTED, THESE PURCHASES ARE USUALLY CARRIED OUT THROUGH A WEST BANK AGENT EMPLOYING AN IRREVOCABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY. PURCHASES SUCH AS THIS ARE CONTRARY TO ISRAELI REGULATIONS AND ARE THEREFORE NOT REGISTERED WITH ISRAELI AUTHORITIES. AS FOR PURCHASES BY ISRAEL LANDS AUTHORITY AND KKL, ISRAELIS IN OFFICIAL CAPACITIES HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT WITH US. WE HAVE ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS REQUESTED APPOINTMENTS WITH KKL AND ISRAEL LANDS AUTHORITY TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT, BUT HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO SECURE APPOINTMENTS WITH ANY RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS. IF DEPT IS INTERESTED IN PURSUING SUBJECT FURTHER, DO YOU WISH ME TO HANDLE AT HIGH MFA LEVEL OR DO YOU PREFER TO TAKE IT UP WITH ISRAELI EMBASSY WASHINGTON? PLEASE ADVISE.  
KEATING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** JEWS, POLICIES, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS, PRIVATE INVESTMENTS, REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974TELAV02038  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740078-0888  
**From:** TEL AVIV  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740461/aaaacdze.tel  
**Line Count:** 84  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** JERUSALEM 0495, AMMAN 1639  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 AUG 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ISRAELI LAND PURCHASES ON WEST BANK  
**TAGS:** PBOR, PFOR, JO, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005